## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 221750Z SEP 75 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO USIA WASHDC INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL AMEMBASSY LIMA SECSTATE WASHDC 7341

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PROP, SOPN, EC, BEXP

SUBJECT: GOE RADIO TO CANCEL \$2.2 MILLION ITT CONTRACT

REFS: (A) QUITO 5772 (B) USIS FM NO. 14

- 1. THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (SENDIP) INFORMED EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 20 HE INTENDS TO CANCEL \$2.2 MILLION CONTRACT WITH ITT SUBSIDIARY FOR INSTALLATION OF THREE 50-KILOWATT TRANSMITTERS IN ECUADOR.
- 2. MILTON ALVA, NAMED TO THE SENDOP POST SHORTLY AFTER THE ABORTIVE SEPT. 1 COUP AS PART OF A CABINET REORGANIZATION, SAID THE PROJECT TO GIVE THE SENDIP OUTLET, RADIO NACIONAL, NATIONWIDE COVERAGE COULD NOT BE CARRIED OUT BECAUSE "THERE IS NO LAND". A SENDIP SPOKESMAN HAD ANNOUNCED IN JUNE THAT THE THREE TRANSMITTERS WOULD BE SET UP IN QUITO, GUAYAQUIL AND JOIA
- 3. ASKED HOW HE WOULD NULLIFY THE \$2.2 MILLION CONTRACT WITH ISEL DEL ECUADOR, A WHOLLY OWNED SUBISDIARY OF ITT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALAVA SAID THAT FINANCING BY AN INTERNATIONAL BANKING

INSTITUTION WAS REQUIRED AND THAT BY AVOIDING THIS STEP THE CONTRACT WOULD NOT BE CARRIED OUT.

4. THE CONTRACT CALLED FOR SALE AND INSTALLATION OF THREE 50KW TRANSMITTING STATIONS, THREE 10KW RESERVE STATIONS, A SOUND PRODUCTION STUDIO, THREE TRANSMITTING TOWERS, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE PROJECT WAS TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED WITHIN ONE YEAR, AND WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE GOE RADIO COVERAGE NOT ONLY OF THE ENTIRE COUNTRY BUT SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS OF PERU AND COLOMBIA AS WELL.

5. COMMENT: ALAVA HAS INDICATED HE PLANS TO REORGANIZE SENDIP'S BUREACUCRACY, WHICH UNDER FORMER DIRECTOR GILBERTO MANTILLA FUNCTIONED SLUGGISHLY IF AT ALL. HOWEVER, HIS ASSERTION THAT NO LAND IS AVAILABLE FOR THE TRANSMITTING STATIONS IS QUESTIONABLE; THE GOE HAS LAND FOR ITS MILITARY GARRISONS AND, IF REQUIRED, COULD EASILY APPROPRIATE THE ACREAGE NECESSARY FOR THE TRANSMITTERS. IT IS FAR MORE LIKELY THAT THE PROJECT WAS CONSIDERED TOO EXPENSIVE AT A TIME WHEN THE GOE IS SHARPLY REDUCING IMPORTS. BELL

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## Message Attributes

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